

Redstone Rocket

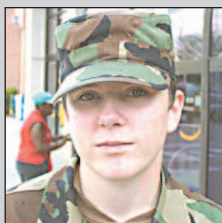
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July 9, 2003

Survey says

Post wildlife
merits review
Page 2



On fast track

Higher
headquarters
recognizes
specialist

Page 6



Training day

Deployed troops
teach Iraqi
police

Page 7



Center stage



Curtain goes up
on Soldier Show
Page 8

Win or lose



Soldiers
strike gold
at Golden
Gloves
Page 18

Redstone Airfield keeps flying high

*Facility meeting mission
with smaller work force*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Many organizations have to do more with less these days. That's definitely the case at Redstone Army Airfield.

The airfield's mission has grown since 1997 when the Army's aviation function arrived from St. Louis to merge with its missile efforts. And the growth is expected to continue. At the same time, the airfield has lost its military spaces and one-sixth of its authorized numbers overall.

"It requires more coordination in scheduling. It requires cross-training internally," Tom Cameron, director of flight operations for the garrison, said.

The airfield went from 38 authorized slots to 32 as a result of downsizing and the Quadrennial Defense Review around 1998. Its numbers had included

See **Airfield** on page 10



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ALL CLEAR— The airfield's flight operations building was replaced and attached to the newly-renovated tower by 2001.

Annual armed forces week offers myriad of events

*Local community salutes
servicemembers, families*

Armed Forces Celebration Week is July 14-18; and many of the events are free to the public.

This year's theme is "Our Armed Forces, Our Community... Together We Serve." Armed Forces Week is designed as a way for the community to pay tribute to the armed forces and their families.

The Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce will hold a proclamation signing July 14 at 9 a.m. at the chamber building on 225 Church St. Local government officials will sign the document officially designating the week of July 14-18 as Armed Forces Celebration Week and the public is welcome.

Redstone Arsenal's annual NCO/Soldier of the Year Luncheon will also be held July 14 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The event honors Redstone's outstanding NCO and enlisted soldier. This year's theme is "Remembering Why We Serve." Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased by calling SFC Tamara Williams at 876-1671.

Army Community Service sponsors an open house and birthday celebration July 14 at 2 p.m. at building 3338. Team Redstone members are invited.

The Arts Council's "Concert in the



Courtesy graphic

SERVING TOGETHER— The theme for Armed Forces Celebration Week 2003 is "Our Armed Forces, Our Community... Together We Serve."

Park" series in Huntsville's Big Spring Park will feature the 398th Army Band, the Army Materiel Command's Own, from Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., that evening. The concert begins at 6:30, with local band Liquid Caravan, which plays a mix of "improvisational rock with a jazz and bluegrass influence" cover and original music. The 389th Army Band, featuring

patriotic and concert music, will begin at approximately 7:45. The concert concludes with a fireworks display at approximately 9.

In addition to the Concert in the Park, military hardware such as helicopters, aircraft and weapon systems will be displayed outdoors around the Von Braun Center and Big Spring Park area as part of the Armed Forces Celebration Week and concert activities. The Concert in the Park and hardware displays are free, and everyone in the community is encouraged to attend. Just don't forget your blanket or lawn chairs.

The Association of the United States Army will hold the Armed Forces Celebration Week dinner July 15 from 6-9 p.m. at the Von Braun Center's North Hall. This year's dinner will feature a Tribute to Freedom, and salute the local Alabama Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) which was deployed from September 2002 to May 2003 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) in the global war against terrorism. For ticket information, call Melissa Lawson at 722-4295.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show will also perform July 16, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Remaining free tickets were available to the public

See **Events** on page 11

Letters to the editor

Traffic backup a nightmare

I would like to know if anything can be done about the traffic backup on Gate 9. This isn't the traffic during the 7-9 a.m. rush hour, but the hours of 10-12 on Friday nights.

I work third shift and leave in plenty of time to get to work a few minutes early. This has not been the case for the past two Fridays. I have sat in line for 30 minutes each night.

I understand the necessity of asking the questions and the searches. But the guys working the gate on Fridays need help. Is there any way this could happen?

Teresa Keene
Army Lodging

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Recently, the Provost Marshal Office has added additional personnel to work Gate 9 during the later hours on Friday and Saturday night due to the influx of traffic during this time frame. However, because of the heavy volume of traffic and our 100 percent vehicle inspection requirement during this time frame, all traffic entering the Arsenal will continue to experience short delays entering the installation. Additionally, Gate 1 is also open until midnight with much less traffic volume resulting in shorter wait times. Two potential solutions are to either leave early enough to accommodate short delays at the gates, or to use alternate routes/gates to access the installation."

Disability insurance beneficial

Several companies in Huntsville (e.g., Boeing et al) have a benefit called "short-term disability" which is offered free of charge as part of their total benefits package. This plan allows employees (after using their own sick leave in the first week) to collect 80 percent of their salary (you can supplement with sick leave to get 100 percent) and retain medical benefits up to six months (longer periods would be covered by long-term disability which is an optional benefit for which employees must pay). In the case of pregnancy (which is, I believe, the most common use of short-term disability), employees are allowed up to four weeks off before and six weeks off after delivery (eight weeks for c-section). Also, I personally knew a case where one employee's appendix ruptured and he was out for four weeks. He then had an abscess and was out another six weeks. If it were not for short-term disability, he would not have been able to pay his mortgage! Another example of use was when an employee fell and hit his head (concussion). He was out six weeks for his head trauma. I know that leave donation provides a way for employees to deal with absences like these, but it breaks my heart to know that not everyone can qualify or get leave donated due to the timing of their illness or the logistics of having to sign up after they are probably already in the hospital. Some employees may have enough leave accrued to handle perhaps one or even two instances requiring such an absence, but employees with less than three years here have not accrued that

much leave and would not want to borrow leave and be "in the hole" for the rest of their career.

If the federal government could arrange for its employees to buy short-term disability (like any insurance, it costs too much to get it on one's own), then a standard process could be in place for the many possibilities for injury that can happen to anyone regardless of age. How can this type of insurance be examined for use to be offered to us? This is not a request for free leave but an opportunity to buy this insurance at an affordable rate. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Patricia Brewer
Lower Tier Project Office

Editor's note: The Personnel and Training Directorate provided the following response. "Thank you for your concerns regarding the federal employees benefits programs. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management has government-wide responsibility and oversight for federal benefits administration. OPM strives to meet the needs of federal employees and has recently contracted with John Hancock and MetLife to provide reasonably priced long-term care insurance to federal employees. Employees may continue to receive pay during extended absences by using combinations of annual/sick leave, advanced annual/sick leave, and through the use of the voluntary leave transfer program. Team Redstone employees have been very supportive of

See Insurance on page 5

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

June 27 — A soldier reported that while at the Post Exchange that someone removed a digital camera and several digital video disks from a bag he had left unsecured in a commercial taxi cab. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

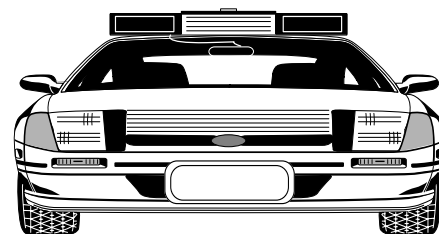
June 28 — An individual operating a commercial taxi cab was stopped on Aerobee Road and found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. The individual was cited and released.

June 28 — A person requesting access to Redstone Arsenal was cited when an inspection of his motor vehicle at Gate 9 revealed a small amount of a controlled substance. The individual was cited and released.

June 28 — A person requesting access to Redstone Arsenal was cited when an inspection of his motor vehicle at Gate 10 revealed a small amount of a controlled substance. The individual was cited and released.

June 28 — A taxi driver requesting access to Redstone Arsenal was cited for disorderly conduct when he refused to properly identify himself, became loud, and shouted obscenities while being inspected at Gate 10.

June 28 — A person who had stopped at Gate 9 to request directions was cited after he was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence



of alcohol. Further investigation and inspection revealed that the person was operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license, having an open container of an alcoholic beverage, and a prohibited weapon in his motor vehicle. He was transported to the Provost Marshal Office where he was held until his blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

June 29 — A soldier reported that someone punctured the rear tires of his motor vehicle while it was parked and secured in front of his quarters. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

June 30 — A person attempting to enter Gate 1 was found to be operating his motor vehicle under the influence of an alcohol beverage when he drove through a sectioned off area. He was transported to the Provost Marshal Office where he was held until his blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

See Crimes on page 5

An open lane random survey

How do you feel about sharing Redstone with wild animals?

By KELLEY LANE



Mike Walsh, DoD civilian
"I have to say that I'm for all the wildlife management that the Arsenal is doing. I enjoy the option to go hunting and I know a lot of friends of mine that do. I'd hate to see us change from the wildlife refuge that we are and I don't know what's the alternative."



Kathy English, DoD civilian

"They were here before we were on the Arsenal and we're just building into their territory so they're coming out."

Pvt. Darlene Levy

"I've never heard of them causing any problems. If they leave us alone, we'll leave them alone and it really shouldn't be a problem."



Pvt. Marie Luers

"It's no big deal. As long as they don't come and attack any of us then it really shouldn't matter."



Redstone Rocket

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New opportunities open for family members

Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers access cards to facilities

By CRAIG WYSOCK
Staff writer
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Something's different about Redstone Arsenal lately, and if you listen closely you just might be able to hear it.

Actually, it's not so much what you can hear, rather, what you cannot.

The groaning and moaning that can sometimes fill the air is beginning to diminish. Family members of Army appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian employees can now access the Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities on their own, without the help or escort of their "link" to the Arsenal.

Thanks to a new regulation passed by the government, the powers-that-be can now approve issuing cards that grant admittance to the Arsenal to those families who qualify. The card will act as a valid identification for passage through all the gates and allows the user to use the many amenities offered by the MWR.

For just \$15, all people who fit the aforementioned requirements, and are of legal driving age, can purchase a MWR patron card through the membership services office of the MWR center, located inside building 1500.

The card is valid for one fiscal year and can be used to enter all MWR sponsored facilities, such as the four gyms, three swimming pools, golf course, horse stables and bowling alley. Other functions of the card include the usage of all the programs offered by the Child Development Center (i.e. camps, day cares).

"Redstone Arsenal has a very

small active duty," Mildred "Mil" White said. "Consequently, all families of those civilian employees are eligible and most don't even know it. There are a lot of great opportunities that they're missing out on that are really worth looking into."

Of course, now that the who, what, where and why questions have answers, the next step would be find out how and when can you get one?

The office has only been issuing cards for about a month but already has one key concept to the whole process figured out beautifully.

"We've taken lessons from the badging office and decided not to make people take a number and wait," LuAnne Hardee, another employee of the membership services office, said. "All you have to do is call us at 830-9175 and make an appointment. Filling out the information and processing the card takes 10 minutes tops."

Because the office has just opened, potential card owners can even make an appointment the day of their call. All one needs to bring is basic information of their sponsor (name, employer, phone number, Social Security number) and a smiling face, because a picture is required.

The card is only valid on Redstone Arsenal, though. For example, a person who has a MWR patron card will receive visitor-like treatment at any other military installation. But with all of the capabilities available on the Arsenal, it really is worth the time and energy, especially during the summer.

"The benefit of having one of these cards is outstanding," White said. "Now that the kids are out of school, it's a great opportunity for affordable fun for the whole family. After all, the resources are here to be used."

So next time you get a chance, stop and listen to the sounds of the Arsenal. Odds are that those groans and moans will have been replaced by laughing children and happy families. And then you will agree that everything is a little more peaceful than before.

Photo by Craig Wysock
CALENDAR CHECK— Mildred "Mil" White, standing, goes over the day's scheduled appointments with LuAnne Hardee at the MWR patron-card office.



Photo by Ronald Bowman

Flight rules

Claude Bolton Jr., left, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, receives a pre-flight briefing on the Instrument Flight Rules system installed on an AH-64A Apache helicopter from CWO 5 Craig Ernst, experimental test pilot, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va.



Photo by Ronald Bowman

Deputy chief

Lt. Gen. Richard Cody, deputy chief of staff for the Army, prepares for a flight in a UH-1 Huey helicopter equipped with the Ground Launch and Recovery System during a recent visit to the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va. Maj. Ed Borman was the pilot.

Post Exchange the place to stay in vogue

Back-to-school event features fashion show

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Back to school shopping can be a nightmare for parents. On top of the never-ending list of supplies, parents must try to anticipate fashion trends for the fall and winter. Keeping on top of these trends in the evolving and fickle youth market can be tricky. Parents want to satisfy their child's passion for fashion, without sacrificing their entire bank account in the process. The Post Exchange may have a solution.

For the first time in several years, the PX is putting together a back-to-school celebration, complete with a fashion show featuring the styles promising to be the must-haves of the season. The PX hopes to make it an annual event.

While any teen magazine can tell you that low rise, boot cut and whisker wash jeans are in, parents and students alike can see the styles in action on the runway July 19. It's an easy way to match the fashion terms with actual items.

Models for the show will be the children of store employees and volunteers from Youth Services. The stage will be set up in the shoe department with lights and music. Starting at 1 p.m., different age groups will stroll down the catwalk in age appropriate versions of the hottest looks of the season. But exactly what looks are those?

"We have a lot of Asian influenced styles happening in the fall and especially in the winter," Sonya Boyd, fashion show

coordinator, said. "You'll see a lot of dragons."

Styles with Italian influenced tailoring are in, as is the urban athletic look. Last year's low rise jeans are going to remain in style, as are T-shirts with attitude words. The 1960s and '80s are making a comeback, but thankfully just the clothes and not the hairstyles. Particularly good news to those not looking forward to relinquishing the bright colors of summer is that this year's fall wardrobe is infused with color. Sherbet tones and deep colors are paired with neutrals and khaki to add a kick to skirts, blouses and pants.

"We've always conditioned ourselves to go for dark colors for back to school," Kim Sumpter, PX general manager, said. "The color combinations this year are fresh. They are warm and cold at the same time. I think that's going to be a whole new look."

The ever feminine pink will be gracing items in every hue and tone. Embroidery and cutwork detailing are also making a splash this season. As always, brand name labels are big. To satisfy label-longing, be sure to note the selection at the PX.

On big name labels such as Mudd and Paco, the difference in price between the PX and local retailers ranges from slight to substantial. When doing your back-to-school shopping, the difference can be calculated into the number of items or outfits you can carry home for the same total amount of money. Mixing designer labels with high quality brands available only at the PX maximizes your buying power without sacrificing style or substance. Getting the best deal for your money is particularly important in light of the economic times.



Serving

TAKING INVENTORY— From left Sonya Boyd, Kim Sumpter and clothing sales area manager Zuhul Stiles consider items for the upcoming fashion show.

Photo by Kelley Lane

"We've read that the average amount back-to-school shopping spent on a child is \$300," Sumpter said. "Which is really on the low end compared to what we used to see. People are looking for more for their money and styles they can use in more than one way."

As any fashion monger knows, a complete look does not stop with clothes. Cosmetic counters will also be giving free makeover consultations. This is a way to try on new products and styles before you buy them. It is also a way for younger

girls who may be new to cosmetics to get expert advice on what and how much they should wear and how to apply it.

The PX will have the expected supply lists for local schools. If your school's list isn't there, just let the PX know so it can be obtained.

There will be drawings for prizes throughout the back-to-school celebration, including a \$200 shopping spree. Call the PX for more information about the back-to-school celebration or school supply lists at 883-6100.

Young students send love to deployed soldiers

Grateful returning major visits Virginia school

By EVETTE BROOKS

For the Rocket

For Maj. Tom Doss, an assignment to Operation Iraqi Freedom turned into "Operation Sandy Hook."

On his 17-hour flight from Atlanta to Kuwait International, Doss flew aboard United Airlines chartered Boeing 777 that was decorated with pictures and letters from Sandy Hook Elementary students. The school is located in Strasburg, Va.

"I walked around the whole plane looking at everything the flight attendants had posted," Doss, assistant project manager for operations at Precision Fires Rockets and Missile Systems, said.

Doss was deployed to Kuwait for four months to assist Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles' efforts in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He was so inspired by the show of student support that he sent a thank you note to one of the teachers, Heather Ashley, the school's computer technology instructor. She responded, beginning a daily e-mail exchange with Sandy Hook teachers and students.

That exchange resulted in Doss being invited to speak at the school's recent graduation ceremony, as well as an all-school assembly in which he related his Operation Iraqi Freedom experiences.

"I went to thank the teachers and students. I did not go to be thanked," Doss said. "I wanted them to know that

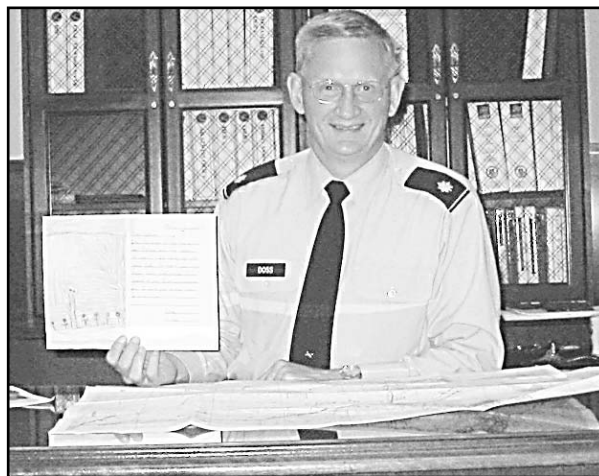


Photo by Evette Brooks

TOUCHING LETTER— Maj. Tom Doss holds a letter from Chloe, a Sandy Hook Elementary student.

they were not supporting Tom Doss. Rather, they were supporting all soldiers. When I arrived at Camp Doha, Kuwait, we established an instant, daily e-mail link, and I looked forward to hearing from them. I sent the school things, and they, in turn, sent me a goody package.

"You don't want to be overseas and not have anyone thinking about you. I wanted them to know that our soldiers were doing a good job, and they were doing a good job of supporting our soldiers."

Doss, a 20-year veteran and Huntsville native, his

wife Cynthia, son Travis, 17, and daughter Monica, 15, drove from Harvest to Strasburg, after the Sandy Hook invitation.

"We visited every single classroom and had an absolute ball with them," he said.

One picture that Doss took off the plane to keep was from a little girl named Chloe. He sought her out especially to thank her for her patriotism and caring.

"When I met her, I learned that she would not talk," Doss said. "I sat and talked with her for a while and showed her the picture she drew. Her face lit up beautifully. She responded to my questions with nods only. Then, to everyone's surprise we actually heard an 'uh huh' from her. The teacher told me it was the first sound she had made in school in two years."

"We fell in love with the school. They went out of their way to make us feel welcome. I reminded them that there is still a whole bunch of people over there deserving support."

The Sandy Hook teachers and students were impressed that he carried a folded American flag during his tour.

"The visit was really a neat moment for us," Doss said. "This has been one of the highlights of my life. It's good to know that people are thinking about our soldiers and what they are doing. Everything they did touched my heart, especially when the third-grade class sang 'God Bless America.'"

A Grissom High ROTC graduate, he received his commission from the Marion Military Institute in 1983. Doss has served in Alaska, Greece and at Forts Bragg (N.C.) and Sill (Okla.).

Redstone units gain 38 soldiers

Thirty-eight soldiers, including 34 officers, arrived for duty during June. The Garrison provided the following list:

Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles — Lt. Col. Lloyd McDaniels, Maj. Timothy McRae, Lt. Col. David L. Johnson, Maj. Stephen Milton and Maj. John Ingram.

Headquarters Aviation and Missiles — Maj. Michael Richmond, Lt. Col. Barbara Norris, CWO 4 Walter Vanwinkle, Maj. David Warnick and MSgt. Robert Barnes.

PEO for Air, Space and Missile Defense — Lt. Col. Dennis Alan Card, CWO 5 John Carnell and Lt. Col. Michael Steves.

PEO for Aviation — Col. Carl Owens, Maj. Brian Tachias, Maj. Carl Higgs, Lt. Col. Vincent Tobin and Lt. Col. Michael Cavalier.

832nd Ordnance Battalion — Lt. Col. Brenda Faye Tate, Maj. Todd Dudinsky (Headquarters & Alpha) and SFC Dou-

glas O'Connor (Delta Company).

Missile Defense Agency — Maj. Arnold Seay, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Mockensturm, Col. Charles Driessnack and Maj. Michael Sloane.

Other newcomers — Lt. Col. Dorothy Taneyhill (Aviation Project Management), Maj. Michael Carr (Elm. Def. Int.), Maj. David Treshansky (Army Element Def.), CWO 4 D. Donald Dehnel (HHC 59th), Lt. Col. Elton Akins (Space and Missile Defense Command), Lt. Col. Kevin Kahley (Def. Dist. Command), Lt. Col. Quentin Peach (GMD Joint Program Office), CWO 4 Dana Ravenberg (IMMC Util. Heli. Strat.), Maj. Joseph Gaines (Missile and Space Intelligence Center), Lt. Col. Michael Wills (PEO Soldier Redstone), Lt. Col. Ralph Deluca (PEO C3T), MSgt. Robert Johnson (95th Maintenance) and SSgt. Denedra Brown (Logistics Support Activity).

■ Worker suggests short-term disability benefit

Insurance

continued from page 2

the leave transfer program annually donating hundreds of hours of leave to assist those in need.

"There may be changes in federal benefits programs in the future. Congress has considered legislation that would provide a 'buffet' of benefits to federal employees in which employees

may select various benefits that meet their specific needs. Under this legislation it is possible that a form of short-term disability insurance may be made available. You may contact OPM by writing to Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20415-0001 or sending e-mail to director@opm.gov if you wish to suggest they consider making short-term disability insurance available to the federal work force."

■ Provost Marshal Office reports activities

Crimes

continued from page 2

July 1 — An individual reported that while he was at the Huntsville Public Library, someone gained access to his vehicle and took his wallet which contained among other items his government visa card and his common access card.

July 1 — Several contractors working at building 5487 reported that two tele-

phone poles fell in their parking lot damaging their privately owned vehicles.

Violation notices issued: speeding, 16; parking violation, 4; driving with open container, 1; possession of controlled substances, 2; improper display of vehicle tag, 3; failure to maintain liability insurance, 1; expired registration, 1; driving with a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license, 2; driving under the influence of alcohol, 2; and disorderly conduct, 1.

Higher headquarters announces NCO, Soldier of Year

Award-winning soldier represents this command

By MELISSA BOHAN
Army Materiel Command
Public Communications Office

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The Army Materiel Command announced the winners of its noncommissioned officer and soldier of the year at a formal banquet ceremony at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center June 20.

Sgt. Shane E. Smith of AMC's Tank-automotive and Armaments Command and Spec. Brandon Parrett of AMC's Aviation and Missile Command beat out four other NCOs and three other soldiers to win the coveted AMC awards after three full days of competition which included a written exam and essay at the education center on post, a physical training test at Davison Army Airfield, and common task tests that evaluated soldier skills such as first aid, nuclear, biological and chemical decontamination, and land navigation. The soldiers and NCOs also went before a formal military board for a uniform review and answered questions on basic soldiering, training, current events and leadership.

"This was an incredible competition — very challenging," said Smith, a member of the Iowa Army National Guard



Courtesy photo

HONOREE— Gen. Paul Kern presents Spec. Brandon Parrett with the Army Commendation Medal for winning AMC's soldier of the year competition.

assigned to the Army Garrison-Selfridge, a subordinate organization to TACOM, located in Selfridge, Mich. Smith was activated under Operation Noble Eagle II to help provide additional security at the installation.

"I know some soldiers who do not think that these competitions are worth it,

but I tell you what, they're really missing out," said Parrett, a test, measurement and diagnostic equipment maintenance support specialist stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. "This is such a unique opportunity for a soldier."

The ceremony included dinner, music by the 389th Army Band, "AMC's Own," a show by the U.S. Army Chorale singers, remarks by AMC's CSM Tyler Walker II and a keynote address by Gen. Paul Kern, AMC's commanding general. Spec. Shoshana Johnson, former POW from the 507th Maintenance Company at Fort Bliss, Texas; SFC Elena Morales-Alvarez, recipient of a 2003 National Image Inc. Meritorious Service Award; and Shauntay Hinton, Miss USA 2002, also attended the ceremony as AMC's special guests.

"What you've done this week is just a small example of the leadership and skills you bring to your units — an example of the great things you do every day and will do in the future," Kern said.

Before announcing the winners, Kern congratulated all the candidates for winning at their respective major subordinate command and for their hard work during the AMC competition. Each received a



Courtesy photo

FIELD TEST— Spec. Brandon Parrett, putting on camouflage before beginning a series of common task tests, beat out three other soldiers to win AMC's soldier of the year competition.

commanding general coin, a Sergeant Major of the Army coin, a command sergeant major coin, a certificate of accomplishment, and a gold watch from the Government Employee Insurance Company.

Then with drum roll in place, the master of ceremonies announced each winner separately and the audience gave them a standing ovation.

Kern presented Smith and Parrett with gifts in front of an audience of more than 120 people. Each received the choice of his next assignment, a \$1,000 saving bond, a \$500 gift certificate from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service on post, a camera, and a plaque of excellence. Kern also presented Smith with a Meritorious Service Medal and a three-day trip for two to Hawaii and Parrett with an Army Commendation Medal and a three-day trip for two to Orlando, Fla., and Walt Disney World.

Other military sponsors gave the winners gifts such as a plaque (Association of the U.S. Army headquarters), an engraved eagle statue (American Military Society), a military excellence plaque and coin (NCO association), and \$500 (GEICO).

The two winners and their runners-up, SSgt. Albert Schevey of AMC's Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and Spec. Steven Sporrer of AMC's SBC-COM, will return to AMC for six weeks of additional training in preparation for the Sergeant Major of the Army's competition in September. AMC gave each runner-up an impact Army Achievement Award.

"Our goal is for our soldier and NCO to win at the Army competition — and I tell you what — we are confident, technically proficient and we can do the job again!" said Walker, speaking about Spec. Justin Brown (now a sergeant) of AMC's AMCOM who won as the Army's soldier of the year in 2002.

The other NCO of the year candidates were Sgt. William Tucker of AMC's Communications-Electronics Command, SSgt. Phillip Burkhart of AMC's Joint Munitions Command, and SSgt. Richard Kinsman of AMC's Army Research Laboratory. The other soldier of the year candidates were Spec. Joseph M. Johnson of AMC's TACOM, and Spec. John Kolodziejczak of AMC's CECOM.

U.S. soldiers help train Fallujah police

Law enforcement members
eager to return to work

By Spec. KATHERINE ROBINSON
and Sgt. CRAIG ZENTKOVICH
Army News Service

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Military police and other 3rd Infantry Division soldiers are helping train the police force in Fallujah, a city about 30 miles west of Baghdad that has been a hotbed of opposition to the coalition.

The 3rd MP Company handed out new uniforms and pistols to 200 officers during a ceremony at the city's main police precinct June 23.

"With these gestures, we hope to forge a new relationship between the U.S. and Iraq that will last for years to come," said Capt. Joseph Hissim, 3rd MP Co. commander, during his remarks at the ceremony.

The uniforms were comprised of Air Force dress trousers and short, locally purchased belts, an Iraqi Police brassard and a .38 caliber Special revolver pistol.

The reason for the uniform change was to get away from the green uniforms symbolic of the former regime, said 1st Lt. Steven Devitt, a platoon leader in the 3rd MPs.

Members of the Fallujah Police Department said they are eager to return to work and a peaceful way of life.

"Being a police officer has been my life," said Officer Kosai Esam Awni, via an interpreter. "My family's safety and home are

my motivation to get back on the street."

In mid-June, 12 vehicles were distributed to three police precincts around the city. Each vehicle, painted white with blue doors and marked FPD, will also have an automatic weapon kept inside for the officer's safety.

SSgt. Sean Sullivan, a team sergeant with B Company, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, has been teaching classes at the Fallujah police station every morning.

Before he was activated, Sullivan worked as a police instructor in Springfield, Mass., so he said the training comes easily to him. What's not as easy is teaching people who don't speak the same language, and who have had little or no training in their fields.

The classes are very basic, Sullivan said. He's done classes on control and compliance techniques, handcuffing, takedown and traffic stops among other things — simple hands-on techniques that don't require much equipment.

"Some of these guys have never even laid eyes on a pair of handcuffs," Sullivan said. "So we're trying to take baby steps. (The training is) something they can watch and learn quickly."

Most days Sullivan starts off the class by asking police officers to show him how they would conduct themselves in certain situations, then he shows them how he would do it differently. With the help of a translator, Fallujah Police 1st Lt. Saad Abdalkareed, Sullivan is able to explain why he does things the way he does, and

how they promote safety.

Sullivan said he hopes the extra training will help the Fallujah police be more proactive as they patrol the streets, both with 3rd MP Company soldiers and by themselves.

"It gives them a little more confidence ... hopefully they might be eager to get out there and use some of these techniques and make this city a little safer," he said.

While some of the police officers in the class seem indifferent, Sullivan said some are eager to learn.

"This is the first time for us to see what we can do in many cases — can we make a search or can we stop a car?" Abdalkareed explained. "It's good for us because we learn what to do in the future against thieves, killers and all bad people."

Abdalkareed said the Fallujah police needed help from the American soldiers, who have more experience, training and equipment.

"We need guns, we need cars, we need radios," he said. "The situation is sort of hard for us because we have more thieves and killers on the streets ... but the American forces try to help us do our jobs."

"Maybe in the future, when we can do our jobs in a good manner, we won't need them anymore."

Editor's note: Spec. Katherine Robinson and Sgt. Craig Zentkovich are journalists with the 50th PAD in Iraq.



Photo by Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

GEAR ISSUE— Spec. Dean Hall, 3rd Military Police Company, holds the brassards to be issued to the Fallujah police June 23.

Depot bids farewell to reservists

LETTERKENNY RELEASE

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Depot commander Col. William Guinn and depot Sgt. Maj. Edward Brown conducted an awards ceremony and picnic to say farewell to 33 members of Company B, 1-127th AR.

The depot recreation area pavilion

served as the site of the ceremony and picnic where employees and community leaders came to say goodbye.

These reservists provided force protection to the depot for nearly a year. Their unit is located in Jamestown, N.Y.

Upon their departure in mid-June, they were replaced by soldiers from the 337th Engineer Battalion in Chambersburg.



Courtesy photo

LEGISLATIVE VISIT— Col. William Guinn, Letterkenny Depot commander, greets Robert Sullivan who represented State Rep. Jeff Coy, while State Rep. Allan Egolf looks on.

Curtain goes up on annual Soldier Show

Two performances set for Von Braun Center

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

The two performances of the 2003 U.S. Army Soldier Show on July 16 are offering a second option for seating to the 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. shows at the Von Braun Center's Concert Hall: "standby."

If you did not receive tickets, but would still like to try to attend, you can go to the Concert Hall and wait to see if empty seats are available prior to the show. Standby seating will begin 15 minutes before the performance on a first-come, first-serve basis (tickets note that if you are not seated for the show 15 minutes prior to performance time, the ticket is no longer valid).

Unlike with a ticket, standby offers no guarantee of seating, but chances are good there will be vacancies.

"Many times with free tickets, people find it easy to change their plans at the last minute. The tickets and the seating go unused. We are trying to remedy that situation," Brandie DeRemer, morale, welfare and recreation coordinator for the Soldier Show, said. Annual sponsorship pays for production of the show and allows free admission. This year's sponsors are First Command

Financial Planning and the Army National Guard.

Ticket distribution for the Soldier Show gives first priority to active duty servicemembers and their families. The remaining tickets are then distributed to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis. Ticket distribution for Redstone service members and their families was made from July 2-7. Tickets for public distribution began July 8 at the Recreation Center and at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce.

"While individuals are limited to four tickets per person, they are still distributed very quickly," DeRemer said.

The Soldier Show is a song and dance production that includes soldiers performing a wide range of musical styles. "It is a very popular family event," DeRemer said. She hopes that individuals that did not receive tickets take advantage of the standby option.

"The generosity of our sponsors allows us to offer these two shows for free. If you can't use your tickets, please pass them on to someone who can so he or she is guaranteed a seat," she said. "But we do want to fill as many seats as possible, so we plan to begin the standby seating promptly at 15 minutes prior to show time."

For more information on the Soldier Show, call DeRemer at 313-1203.



Victoria Palmer/CFSC Public Affairs

FANCY DANCER— As part of the 2003 U.S. Army Soldier Show, Spec. Clifton Hall performs a Native American Hoop Dance — a first for the show.

Redstone rocks again with Army concert tour

Ted Nugent, Lou Gramm to appear at activity field

By EVETTE BROOKS
For the Rocket

Bring your cameras, lawn chairs, blankets and video recorders to the post activity field Aug. 9 for the Miller Lite Army Concert featuring Ted Nugent and lead singer Lou Gramm of the rock group Foreigner.



Courtesy photo

LEGENDARY ROCKER— Ted Nugent will perform at Redstone Aug. 9.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate and are available through www.ticketmaster.com and its outlets: the Recreation Center, ITR, Sparkman Cafeteria, Hotel Redstone, the Officers and Civilians Club, PX customer service or by calling 876-4531.

Entrance will be through Gate 10. The show begins at 8 p.m., and gates open at 6:30. A pre-concert party is 3:30-6:30 at Redstone Lanes. Visit www.redstonemwr.com for more details.

Nugent, a Detroit native, is recognized as one of the world's leading guitar showmen. His career spans four decades of multi-platinum hits. Some of his hits include "Journey to the Center of the Mind," "Cat Scratch Fever," "High Enough" and "Fred Bear."

Gramm, a Rochester native, founded his original band Black Sheep which disbanded in 1976. With almost 15 years worth of vocalist and songwriting experience under his belt, Gramm released his first solo album in spring 1987 on Atlantic Records label. He wanted the freedom and control to take his ideas where he wanted to go; and he felt that he could best do this outside of the constraints of his newest band, Foreigner. The album reached the top 20 on the charts and had hit singles "Midnight Blue," "Ready or Not" and "Heartache."

Career still good as gold to longtime worker

*Industrial specialist
has 50 years service*

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellouth.net

For many at Redstone, the Army has become a way of life. They spend decades in service before retiring to pursue the private sector. Some stay on as civilians to support the soldier. Few have spent as large a part of their lives with the Army as Bennie Robison.

On June 24, Robison was presented with a pin for 50 years of service.

"It's not even gold. It's probably brass — old cheap government," Robison quipped. His sense of humor and personable nature make Robison a favorite among co-workers.

Robison, while born in Tennessee, grew up in St. Louis. At 17 he was a high school dropout, worrying about his future. He decided to join the Army. It was a choice that has shaped the course of his life. He spent 26 years in the military.

"I give the Army so much credit for taking a 17-year-old high school dropout and making something out of him. They gave me a technical education that I couldn't have gotten anywhere." Army life took him all over the world. After basic training, Robison ended up in Hawaii on his way to the Korean War.

"I didn't get to participate in the Korean War," he said. "However, I was invited to the Vietnam conflict. So I made it to one of them."

When he returned home after the Korean War, he was hit by a different kind of bombshell — a girl named Jestina. They were married and she followed him faithfully around the world. Robison found himself stationed in places like Austria, France, Germany and Italy, with several stays at Redstone scattered in for training and as an instructor for the missile school.

"Each time we'd come back, we'd come back here," Robison said. "Each time my daughters would go to school here. They ended up going to grade school, middle school, high school and college here on and off."

Robison retired as a chief warrant officer in 1976. He received a bachelor's degree in business after retiring. He then found work doing quality assurance for

industry and for the space shuttle program. He spent five years with NASA and the solid rocket booster before coming to industrial operations division of the Engineering Directorate in 1985, where he remains. The industrial specialist is happy to share the knowledge he has gained with the younger work force coming in.

"There are a lot of young people coming out of college in here," he said. "I give them the benefit of some of my experience and I enjoy mentoring them a little bit. They have the expertise as far as computers, but they don't have the hands-on experience that you need to do this job and I can give them that." It is a job he enjoys and Robison has no plans to retire anytime soon.

"It makes it difficult to retire when you enjoy your job and enjoy the people you work for," he said. "I think when I wake up in the morning and say 'Well, I really dread going to work!' then I think that's the time to retire."

He plans on keeping his job as long as he enjoys it, but isn't sure if that means one, five or 10 years more. Knowing that he can retire whenever he feels the need is a source of comfort and humor to Robison.

"It's a good feeling to be able to go when you want to. So far they haven't made me mad yet, so I guess I'll be around for a little while," he quipped.

His oldest daughter, Sharon, lives in Madison and he enjoys the frequent visits of his grandchildren Melissa, 17, and Bradley, 13. His other daughter, Sheila, lives in Utah with her husband and children Dana, 14, and Tyler, 8. His younger brother, also retired from the military, lives in Arab. His wife died last November, just two weeks shy of renewing their vows on their 50th anniversary. He credits her encouragement and, at times, gentle nudging for most of his success.

"In the military especially, it takes a special woman to go through the hardships," he said. "She had to drag two little girls around all over the world — getting packed and baggage and moving. She did it with an expertise that all military wives acquire. Without her there, I would be nothing."

Adjusting to life without Jestina has been difficult, but Robison has found comfort in his faith and family. Reflecting on the years, Robison is happy with the

path he took and where it has led him.

"It's been a good life and a good career," he said. "I don't regret any of it."

There have been good times and there have been bad times, but that goes along with life.



Photo by Kelley Lane

TOKEN OF SERVICE— From left Bennie Robison proudly shows his 50-year pin to Tom Reynolds, daughter Sharon, and Jim Cruce.

Airfield

continued from page 1

24 military, 12 Army civilians and two contract spaces. Now there are 19 Army civilians and 11 contractors; and two slots, including one civilian and one contractor, are vacant.

But the airfield continues to quietly get its jobs done safely. In the last three months, its aircraft flew 251 hours including 370 takeoffs and landings. The air traffic controllers helped takeoff and land about 8,500 local and transient aircraft altogether.

And the only safety blip to date during the past 20-plus years was a hard landing by one of its aircraft in 1999 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The airfield has received several aviation excellence awards through the years from the Army Materiel Command.

"Everybody that works here feels a little bit related to this," Cameron said, describing the sense of connection to the mission. "And when someone new comes aboard, within a year or so they start to pick up the same ownership. It just rubs off."

The airfield supports arrivals and departures of its own and transient air-



Photo by Skip Vaughn
RADAR WATCH— Air traffic controller Rob Cannon watches the radar scope in the ground controlled approach area.

craft, conducts research and development testing for missile and helicopter systems, supports training for the Ordnance school, provides aircraft maintenance and keeps flight records, among other things. The instrumented facility includes a 7,300-foot runway and a 79-foot tower.

Its fleet includes four UH-1H Huey helicopters and two C-23A Sherpas, twin-engine medium cargo airplanes. These aircraft are used to support research and devel-



Photo by Skip Vaughn
CHECKUP TIME— Ned Norton, a DynCorp crew chief, looks over a UH-1H Huey.

opment; and the C-23A's transport hazardous or sensitive cargo when necessary.

"This airfield will grow tremendously to support aviation and missile development needs," Cameron said. "I think within the next 10-15 years all available real estate will be occupied on the airfield."

This includes planned construction of an engineering and development building by 2007 for nearly \$40 million.

The history of aviation at Redstone can be traced to the installation's World War II beginnings, according to a written report by historian Dr. Kaylene Hughes. Originally part of the Chemical Corps' Huntsville Arsenal, the airfield was established to accommodate the planes used to test incendiary munitions manufactured during the war not only at Huntsville and Redstone Arsenals but those produced by other Army installations and contractor facilities across the country. With the cessation of hostilities in 1945, the airfield began an 11-year hiatus during which time no planes were assigned to it. In this period, the airfield was largely vacated and served primarily as a landing strip for transient aircraft.

The transfer of this and other Huntsville Arsenal land and facilities in June 1949 to neighboring Redstone Arsenal, a World War II Ordnance Corps shell loading and assembly plant designated as the site of the Army's consolidated rocket and missile programs, was a good omen for the airfield, according to Hughes' account. After the activation of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency at the Redstone Arsenal complex in February 1956, the former landing strip became a fully operational Army airfield, complete with assigned aircraft, aviation personnel, an air traffic control tower and modern radar and communications equipment.

In 2001, a \$1.5 million renovation project was completed at the airfield. Its flight operations building was removed and replaced by a new facility. The new

building was attached to the newly-renovated tower.

"We're much more functional because everyone's centrally located," Cameron said of the renovated building. "Coordination is more effective."

Five air traffic controllers occupy the tower, splitting their time between the top floor lookout room and the ground controlled approach in the bottom floor. On this particular afternoon, Rob Cannon shared the ground controlled approach area with Chris Peoples and Tom Williams. Manning the tower upstairs were air traffic control chief Lloyd Brown and Ron Folsom. They work closely with Huntsville Airport which serves as the airfield's parent approach control.

"I love the job," Cannon, here for nearly three years, said. "I've been an air traffic controller for over 23 years total."

"I wish it was busier, more traffic," Brown, who retired from the Air Force in 1996 and has been an air traffic controller since 1975, said. "But other than that, I'm extremely happy; and glad to have a job."

Nearby is the central hangar for the airfield's aircraft. The Redstone Technical Test Center has the south hangar and the logistics support facility occupies the north one. The Flying Activity, a group for aviation enthusiasts, is on the southwest side of the airfield.

"For us in maintenance, it gets awfully busy a lot of times," Roger Christie, the rotary-wing maintenance coordinator, said. On this afternoon, two of his Hueys were loaded with projects and the other two were flying support missions. His lead man, Damon Beck, and four mechanics — Russ Matteo, Ned Norton, Aaron Allen and Lloyd Tomlinson — all work for DynCorp Technical Services, a contractor.

The airfield serves as the arrival point for visiting dignitaries. "We've had (U.S.) presidents and vice presidents," Cameron said. President George Bush arrived June 20, 1990.



Photo by Skip Vaughn
TOWER VIEW— Ron Folsom, left, and air traffic control chief Lloyd Brown talk with pilots within a five-mile radius and 2,500 feet and below.

Army awards \$20.4M environmental contract

TELEDYNE RELEASE

Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. has been awarded a contract to support the Army with the destruction of binary chemical warfare materiel in storage at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.

This contract will take advantage of Teledyne Brown Engineering's experience in the design, construction, installation and operation of systems to safely treat and dispose of chemical warfare materiel. This contract, awarded to Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. as prime contractor, is valued at \$20.4 million, if fully funded over the contract life.

"Teledyne has supported the Army's Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program since 1996," said Robert Mehrabian, chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Teledyne Technologies. "We are extremely proud of the continued confidence shown in Teledyne Brown Engineering by the U.S. Army's Non-Stockpile Program team."

Under this contract, Teledyne will complete the design of a chemical neutralization system, construct the Pine Bluff Binary Destruction Facility in an existing structure on Pine Bluff Arsenal, install and test

the system, operate the facility to dispose of the "binary precursor" chemicals, and close the facility. The selected destruction process called water hydrolysis will use warm water to neutralize the precursor chemicals. The resulting byproduct will be disposed of at an approved commercial disposal facility. While not chemical agent themselves, binary precursor chemicals would form chemical agents when combined with other constituents in a munition while in flight to a target.

The Pine Bluff Binary Destruction Facility will execute part of the Army's ongoing effort to safely eliminate the nation's remaining chemical warfare materiel as mandated by the Chemical Weapons Convention. Under terms of this international treaty, the United States must eliminate its remaining chemical materiel and former production facilities by April 2007.

Teledyne Technologies is a leading provider of sophisticated electronic components, instruments and communication products, systems engineering solutions, aerospace engines and components and on-site gas and power generation systems. Teledyne Technologies has operations in the United States, the United Kingdom and Mexico.

■ Weeklong celebration features music, displays

Events

continued from page 1

at the Recreation Center (building 3711) and the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce.

The following activities will offer free or discounted admission during this year's Armed Forces Celebration Week, according to the Chamber of Commerce:

- **Botanical Gardens:** Free admission (active duty & retired military). The Huntsville Botanical Garden opens the gates to military personnel and their families, July 12-20. The Gardens, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., will exhibit "Treemendous Treehouses," from fanciful to futuristic.

- **U.S. Space and Rocket Center:** Free admission (includes IMAX) to all active duty military ID card and APBI badge holders. Family members will receive a \$4 discount off the center's combination admission (\$16.95 adults, \$11.95 children) price. This will be in effect July 14-20. These discounts will be given at the Space and Rocket Center ticket counter, 1 Tranquility Base.

- **EarlyWorks Museum, & Constitution Village:** Discounted admission on combined ticket \$5 (regular price \$10) July 19, downtown Huntsville.

- **Burritt on the Mountain Open House:** July 19, free admission, Burritt

Barnyard and the "Best View in Town" at 3101 Burritt Drive.

- **Huntsville Stars baseball game:** July 18 at 7 p.m., free admission for U.S. government badge and military ID card holders, Joe Davis Stadium.

- **Huntsville Speedway:** July 18 at 6 p.m., free admission for military ID holders, 357 Hegia Burrows Road.

- **Veterans Memorial Museum:** Free admission July 12 and July 19. Michael Durant book signing for "In the Company of Heroes," July 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at 2066-A Airport Road.

- **Sci-Quest Museum:** Discounted admission of \$4 (regular price \$6) July 14-19 at 102 Wynn Drive.

- **Cars And Camouflage Car Show** benefiting Army Emergency Relief: July 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., free admission (donations accepted for AER) at Gate 10.

- **The Huntsville Museum of Art** invites everyone to a patriotic creative activity during Armed Forces Celebration Week. On July 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., young artists can construct creations using art papers, glue, markers, and oil pastels. This program is free to families with military I.D. For reservations call 535-4350, ext. 201.

For more information about Armed Forces Celebration Week, call the Chamber of Commerce at 535-2000, or the Public Affairs Office at 876-5302.

Nation won't forsake missing servicemembers

More than 88,000 Americans unaccounted from conflicts

By RUDI WILLIAMS
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — The quest to account for missing servicemen from the Vietnam, Korean and Cold War and World War II — "is unwavering, untiring and will not fail!" Jerry Jennings told the audience during the 34th annual National League of Families conclave here June 27.

The global war against terrorism, including Afghanistan and Iraq, will not diminish the nation's efforts to account for the missing from past conflicts, said Jennings, deputy assistant secretary of defense for prisoner of war and missing personnel affairs and director of the Defense POW/MIA Office.

He went on to say that missing servicemembers will not be forsaken in order to take care of those in harm's way today.

To emphasize his comments, Jennings said, in May 2001, President Bush spoke of "a special group of veterans: Americans still missing and unaccounted for from Vietnam, Korea, the Cold War and World War II. They deserve and will have our best efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting and, alive or dead, to return them home to America."

Moreover, he quoted Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, who echoed the president's commitment in January: The brave men and women who serve in the war on terror "can do so with the full confidence that if they are captured, become missing or fall in battle, this nation will spare no effort to bring them home. That's our solemn pledge. However long it takes, whatever it takes, whatever the cost."

"Our mission of the fullest possible accounting has not and will not be diminished by combat operations around the world," Jennings noted.

He told the gathering of mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers and other loved ones of missing servicemen that Congress has made clear its desire that the mission to account for the missing will not be cut. "In fact," he said, "much of our field work and resources have actually increased

because Congress supports our mission. And they've also specified that the manpower and the budget of our agency (DPMO) will not be touched."

DPMO has more than 600 men and women of different specialties working every day around the world to account for the more than 88,000 Americans who are missing from all conflicts, the secretary said.

Jennings then asked employees of his office to stand to be recognized, to audience applause. "Their talents and specialties are so varied — research, policy, analysis, personnel recovery, communications, security and so on," he noted.

He also recognized the lifelong dedication of Ann Mills Griffiths in moving the issue forward on behalf of POW and MIA families. Griffiths is the executive director of National League Families.

Noting that the first-ever DoD-wide personnel accounting conference was held last January, Jennings said that included government briefings and presentations by Griffiths and several veterans organizations representing millions of members.

"In another new initiative, I've invited senior policy level representatives from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to attend POW/MIA consultations in Bangkok, Thailand, in October," Jennings told the audience. "We plan to discuss lessons learned from the past, craft strategies to advance the effort in Southeast Asia, and forge together a vision for the future."

He foresees the countries exchanging ideas, fostering greater cooperation and ultimately contributing to achieving the answers to America's and families' questions about missing personnel. Among other initiatives, DPMO is planning a veteran-to-veteran exchange in Southeast Asia. "American veterans organizations have already offered support for this initiative," he said. "We're appreciative of their willingness to join with us in what we believe will be a very productive initiative."

U.S. efforts to press for greater cooperation continues beyond Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, into Russia and other countries, Jennings noted. For example, he said work with the Russian government to clarify cases of American missing personnel from the Vietnam War continues.

"Though we've not reached the point

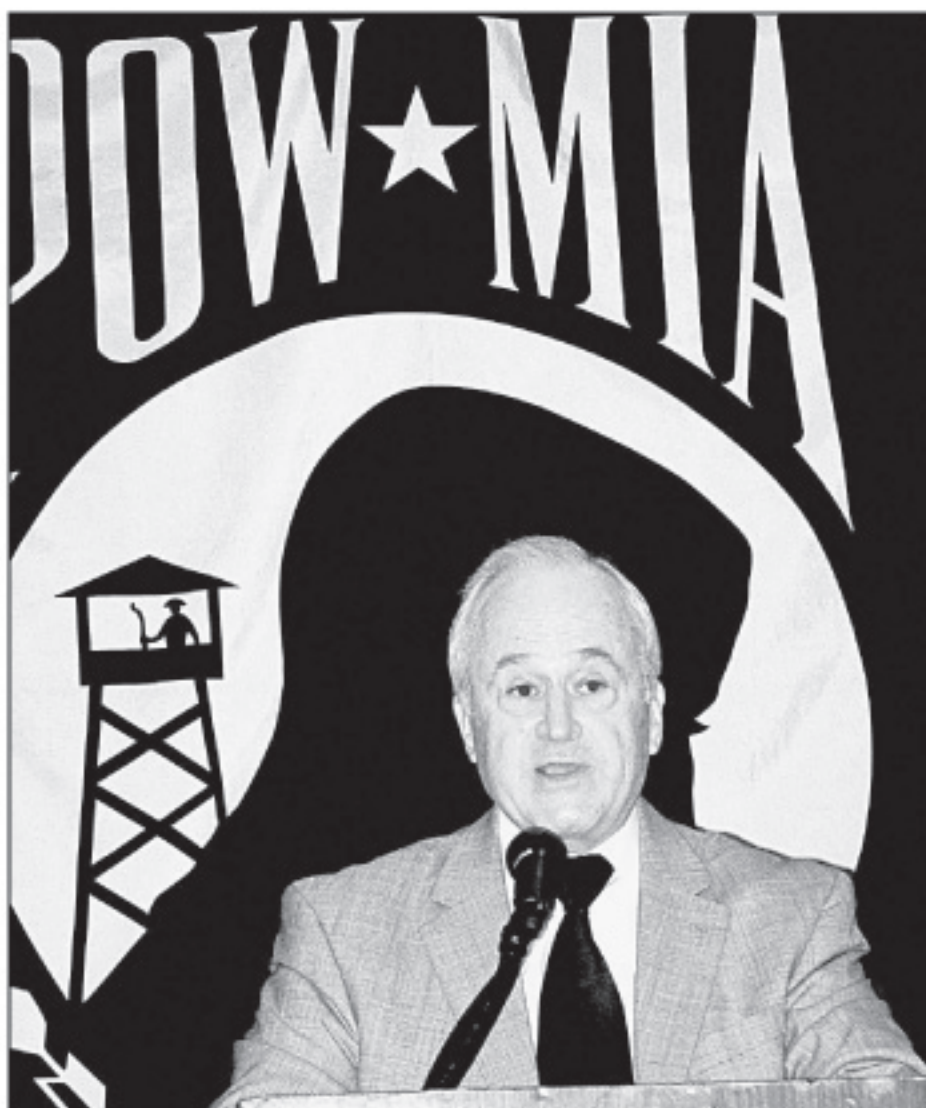


Photo by Rudi Williams

FULL ACCOUNT— "Our mission of the fullest possible accounting has not and will not be diminished by combat operations around the world," Jerry Jennings told members of the National League of Families during its 34th annual conclave in Arlington, Va., June 26-28.

of dramatic breakthroughs, I'm encouraged by certain recent signals from Moscow indicating a more forthright approach to working with us than previously shown," Jennings said. For example, he said efforts are under way to allow declassification of some Russian military records from the Vietnam War era. "In recent months, the Russians have provid-

ed us with excerpts of classified materials that we're correlating with our own records relating to American loss incidents," Jennings said.

"Unfortunately, as long as nations have disagreements, there will be wars," he said. "We're not finished until the job is done to bring home every American warrior."

West Nile virus debuts earlier than usual

Preventing mosquito bites represents best defense

By JERRY HARBEN
Army Medical Command

While our infantrymen are still fighting small pockets of resistance in Iraq, a different kind of Army warrior, the preventive medicine specialist, is waging a war against the West Nile virus in the United States.

Although there have been no cases of humans infected by West Nile virus in the United States so far this year, according to U.S. Centers of Disease Control statistics as of June 11, the virus has been detected earlier than usual in birds and mosquitoes this summer. Therefore, measures to protect people are appropriate.

The virus, which can cause a form of encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), normally resides in birds and infects humans through mosquitoes that bite both the birds and humans. So, preventing mosquito bites is the best way to prevent human infection.

"Personal protection is the first line of defense," said Lt. Col. Dave West, an entomologist for Medical Command's Proponency Office for Preventive Medicine at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"People should wear long sleeves rolled down, wear insect repellent with DEET and wear uniforms treated with permethrin," he continued.

Staying indoors at dawn, dusk and early evening, when mosquitoes are most active, also will help.

Mosquitoes reproduce in standing water, so eliminating pools (even small

ones such as in old tires or tin cans) can reduce the threat. Many military installations will take measures to control mosquito populations, but West noted that, "even with the most effective control measures, there will still be mosquitoes out there."

West Nile virus is not transmitted from person to person — except, in rare cases, by blood transfusion or organ transplant from an infected donor — and there is no evidence a person can be infected directly from birds.

West Nile virus is commonly found in Africa, West Asia and the Middle East. In 1999 it was identified in New York and it has since spread to 44 states. Last year there were 4,156 reported human cases and 284 deaths in the U.S.

Most humans infected with the virus have no symptoms. Some develop mild symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, skin rash and swollen lymph glands. Less than 1 percent of infections cause serious illness, which could include encephalitis or meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord). Some 3 to 15 percent of encephalitis cases result in death. The elderly are most at risk.

"Most of our military population is young and healthy. Even though we may become infected, most people will not show signs of disease," West said.

The web site of the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine states that there is no vaccine or specific medication against West Nile virus, but the symptoms and complications can be treated. By far, most people who get this illness recover from it. The center's web site (<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/>) offers more extensive information about the illness and preventive measures.

Turning down volume may be healthy

Here's sound advice about hearing loss

By DEBORAH HALL
Occupational health nurse

Hearing loss is the total or partial inability to hear sound in one or both ears. Because noise induced hearing loss is preventable, everyone should understand the hazards of noise and how to protect their hearing in everyday life.

Noises above 90 decibels — the measure of the loudness or strength of vibration of a sound — particularly if the sound is prolonged, may cause such intense vibration that the inner ear is damaged. Some examples of sounds and their dB include: whisper in a quiet library, 30 dB; normal conversation, sewing machine, 90 dB; some rock concerts, 100 dB; jackhammer 3 feet away, 120 dB; and gun muzzle blast, 140 dB.

A general rule of thumb is that if noise is so loud that you need to shout to be heard, the noise can damage hearing. Just as each individual is different, so too is a person's hearing loss. No two people will lose hearing ability in the same way. For example, some losses occur in the higher frequency ranges while others may experience difficulty in hearing softer sounds.

Signs you might be suffering from a hearing loss and need to have your hearing evaluated by a hearing professional include:

- Listening difficulty at a restaurant

with family and friends.

- Your hearing condition causes arguments with members of your family.
- You hear frequent jokes about your hearing ability.
- Your spouse tells you "I frequently have to repeat things for you."
- You attend church services or other social events less often because of your hearing problem.
- You find it necessary to turn up the volume on your TV or radio and others think it is too loud.
- You experience feelings of frustration when you talk to others and have difficulty hearing everything they say.

Hearing professionals include an otolaryngologist, a physician who specializes in diseases of the ears, nose, throat, head and neck, and an audiologist, a health professional trained to identify and measure hearing loss and to rehabilitate persons with hearing impairments.

Hearing loss is much easier, and more effective, to prevent than it is to treat. It is easy to protect your hearing by wearing earplugs or other hearing protective devices when involved in a loud activity (special earplugs and earmuffs are available at hardware stores and sporting good stores). Government workers in a noise hazardous job are part of the hearing conservation program administered by the Occupational Health Clinic. For more information on hearing protection, go to www.entnet.org or call the Occupational Health Clinic at 955-8888, ext.1027.

Look for and report suspicious activity

**Early warning
can save lives**

GARRISON RELEASE

Everyone is responsible for security to include military and civilian personnel, family members, contractors, off-post merchants, community organizations, neighborhoods, etc. Since our security forces can't be everywhere we're enlisting the eyes and ears of the entire Redstone Arsenal community.

You know best what belongs in your neighborhood, in your work area or on your drive to work, so you'll be able to spot something that doesn't quite look right and report it. The time you take to report suspicious activity may actually save a life or prevent a criminal or terrorist act. For suspicious activity either on or near Redstone Arsenal, call the military police desk at 876-2222. For suspicious activity off post, call the Huntsville Police Department at 911 for emergencies or 722-7100 for non-emergencies or the Madison County Sheriff's Office at 722-7181.

Look for and report anyone who is recording or monitoring activities. This may include the use of cameras (either still or video), note taking, drawing diagrams, annotating on maps, or using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices. Does the person belong where he is now? If the person is in an area you think they should not be, report them

to someone who can determine their status.

Surveillance indicators include the following:

- Personnel observed near the installation using or carrying video/camera/observation equipment with high magnification lenses.

- Personnel observed with installation maps, facility photos or diagrams with facilities highlighted or notes regarding infrastructure or listing of installation personnel.

- Personnel observed possessing or using night vision devices near the installation perimeter or local area.

- Personnel observed parking, standing or loitering in the same area over a multiple day period with no apparent reasonable explanation.

- A noted pattern or series of false alarms requiring law enforcement or emergency services response.

- Theft of military identification cards or government license plates off post. Non-military persons in possession of military ID cards.

- Non-military persons stopped with military style weapons and clothing/equipment.

- Reports of military personnel being asked questions off post pertaining to the installation.

Elicitation means people or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities or people.

Elicitation attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone or in person. Examples could include being approached at a gas station (or mall or airport or library, etc.) and asked about what's happening at the post; getting a fax (or an e-mail or a telephone call, etc.) asking for troop strength numbers ... or the number of airplanes on post ... or deployment procedures ... or how a trash-collection truck gets on post ... or the location of the headquarters building ... or how many people live in a certain dorm ... or where the commander lives ... or how many people hang out at the officers/enlisted club at night ... or which night-clubs/restaurants off post are highly frequented by military people ... or the workings of the post's network firewall, etc.

Tests of security include any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures in order to assess strengths and weaknesses. Examples: a person grabs the post fence and shakes it to see how long it takes for police to respond; a driver approaches the front gate (without ID or car sticker) and pretends to be lost or to have taken a wrong turn just to learn the procedures of how he is dealt with and how far into the gate he can get before being turned around; a person places a "smoke bomb" near the fence or throws it over the fence, just to learn how quickly police respond

and what effect that it has on gate operations, etc.

Acquiring supplies means purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, detonators, timers, etc. This also includes acquiring military uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture such items) or any other controlled items.

Suspicious persons out of place are people who don't seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment or anywhere else. This category is hard to define, but the point is that people know what looks right and what doesn't look right in their neighborhoods, office spaces, commutes, etc., and if a person just doesn't seem like he or she belongs, there's probably a reason for that.

Dry run means putting people into position and moving them around according to their plan without actually committing the terrorist act. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but it can also pertain to bombings.

An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow. Take note of people moving around from place to place without any apparent purpose and doing it, perhaps, many times. The appropriate example here is the Sept. 11 hijackers, who are now known to have actually flown on those exact flights several times before Sept. 11. Their

purpose was to practice getting their people into position, working out arrival times, parking, ticketing, going through security, boarding, etc. By taking note of everything around them, in one sense they were conducting surveillance and testing security, but they were also doing a dry run of the actual activity.

Deploying assets means people and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is a person's last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs. Look for people loading up vehicles with weaponry/explosives, etc., or parking that vehicle somewhere, or people in military uniforms (who don't look right) approaching an installation or getting into a vehicle, or people who seem out of place standing by at a certain location as if waiting for something to happen.

One fairly good example of this is the attack on the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia. When the explosives-laden truck pulled up to the fence line (which was the "deploying assets" step) and the driver jumped out and ran away, that was seen by a spotter on the roof of the dormitory, who recognized this as suspicious activity. He then sprinted down stairs and began pounding on doors, rousting people out of bed and getting them out of the building. Because of that, he saved many, many lives, and it's all because he recognized the "deploying assets" element.

Good health information available at fingertips

**Medical Library Association
recommends 10 web sites**

By Capt. FARRELL ADKINS

Chief, Public Health and Education Center

Want information on a health topic? Want to treat yourself for minor health problems? Want to research the

medical diagnosis of a family member? Health information is more accessible than at any time in the past because of access to the Internet.

Some practical uses of health information on the Internet include: how to stay healthy and not get sick, how to eat right, how to change habits that adversely affect health, how to treat yourself at home, when to seek care from your doctor, research your medical condition and have a more meaningful interaction with your doctor, review immunizations and when they are due, learn about medications, and how to handle health emergencies.

The Internet can be a valuable source of information. One should evaluate all Internet information for objectivity and credibility. Information can be posted to the Internet without scrutiny or prior approval. Don't assume it is correct or authentic because it is on the Internet. Always evaluate the web site and the information on it before implementing its recommendations or utilizing its information.

When evaluating health information on the Internet look on the site for something that identifies who provides content, who pays for the site, or who runs the site. A web site may have an "about this site" section that will explain its purpose, funding or identify its proponent. Only use the information you determine to be objective and credible.

When was the last time the site was updated? Only use up-to-date information from the Internet.

Sites ending in .gov are run by the U.S. government

and generally will be more objective than commercial sites that end in .com.

Finally, don't leave any personal information on the web site.

The Medical Library Association evaluates web sites based on the following criteria: credibility, sponsorship/authorship, content, audience, currency, disclosure, purpose, links, design, interactivity and disclaimers. The MLA has listed the following web sites as useful after applying their evaluation criteria:

- <http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/>
- <http://www.healthfinder.gov/>
- <http://www.familydoctor.org/>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- <http://www.cancer.gov/>
- <http://www.kidshealth.org/>
- <http://www.mayoclinic.com/index.cfm>
- http://medem.com/MedLB/medlib_entry.cfm
- <http://medlineplus.gov/>
- <http://www.noah-health.org/>

Take the time to try these web sites, learn what health information they have to offer and use your ability to evaluate the sites for objectivity and credibility. If any of these web sites passes your evaluation, you may want to mark it as a favorite.

For more information on health education call the Public Health and Education Center at 955-8888, ext. 1026 or visit www.cdc.gov.

Officials take offense against preventable mishaps

Accidents increasing in Defense Department

By GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Aviation and other types of serious accidents across DoD have gone up and the department's senior leaders have vowed to do something about it.

"Most accidents are preventable accidents," David S.C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, declared here in a June 27 interview.

Chu, who's leading DoD's accident prevention effort, pointed to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's May 19 memorandum on the subject.

In his memo, Rumsfeld observed: "World-class organizations do not tolerate preventable accidents. Our accident rates have increased recently, and we need to turn this situation around."

The secretary then challenged DoD's military and civilian leaders and rank and

file "to reduce the number of mishaps and accident rates by at least 50 percent in the next two years."

These goals "are achievable," Rumsfeld continued, "and will directly increase our operational readiness. We owe no less to the men and women who defend our nation."

Military aviation accidents, Chu observed, have gone up. In fact, a recent DoD news release noted that 82 personnel died in aviation mishaps in fiscal 2002 — that's 17 more fatalities than the previous year.

Some accident prevention involves using common sense, Chu observed. For example, he noted, sailors should know it's an unsafe practice to run across an aircraft carrier's wet deck.

Chu also pointed out the department's concern about fatalities and injuries caused by motor vehicle accidents involving military and civilians, on and off duty. Not drinking and driving, and using seat belts, he observed, can greatly reduce deaths and injuries caused from auto crashes.

'Our accident rates have increased recently, and we need to turn this situation around.'

— Donald Rumsfeld
Defense secretary

Military and civilians across DoD should know that the main goal of the accident-reduction campaign is to safeguard lives and prevent injuries, Chu pointed out, instead of focusing on losses of equipment.

People, he asserted, come first.

Mishaps kill and maim DoD's people, Chu observed, thereby making the prevention of accidents "a serious issue." Accidents, he continued, also negatively impact military operations through equipment damage and time-consuming investigations.

A DoD safety council — comprised of senior military and civilian leaders — has been formed, Chu noted. That group, he said, is studying methods, processes and strategies — including the implementation of best business practices — to reduce accident rates across the department in line with meeting the secretary's goals.

Also, servicemember and civilian ideas on accident prevention — to include observations about dangerous types of equipment and gear — will be sought out and considered.

The defense secretary's desire to implement better accident-prevention practices across DoD has been a top goal since he took office, Chu remarked. He noted that he and the secretary want to bring about a sea change in the department's attitude and culture regarding accident prevention.

"We don't need to lose people or to get people hurt ... these accidents are preventable," Chu emphasized, adding, "our real goal is getting preventable accidents to zero."

Team ensures vaccines keep cool, arrive on time

By KAREN FLEMING MICHAEL
Special to American Forces Press Service

FORT DETRICK, Md. — When top DoD officials mandate anthrax or smallpox vaccinations for servicemembers, a small group of dedicated logisticians at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency spring into action. Their job? Make sure the vaccine gets where it needs to go and arrives in pristine condition.

The agency's Distribution Operations Center professionals are experts in cold chain management, said Maj. Patrick Garman, agency pharmacy consultant and deputy director for distribution operations of the Military Vaccine Office. The center, he said, is a core group of highly skilled specialists recognized within DoD for packing and storing of medical materiel that requires refrigeration or has other special handling requirements.

"USAMMA has been a pioneer in the process of controlling a product's temperature during shipping," he said. "We have a good reputation within DoD, and we also send our representatives to train civilian companies in cold chain management."

Since February 1998, the group has dedicated its energies toward developing protocols for packing vaccines properly and finding cutting-edge temperature monitoring devices. They also ensure vaccine refrigerators used in shipping are running properly and make sure customers understand the importance of keeping vaccines at the proper temperature.

"We make sure no vaccine is compromised because of temperature variations, so it is safe for the soldiers receiving the immunization," said Ruben Gueits, system support analysis. "We also save the government money by limiting the amount of vaccine that has to be wasted due to being exposed to temperature extremes."

For the past 10 months, the group has been hustling. After a two-year hiatus from shipping the anthrax vaccine, the staff awoke that dormant program. By fall

2002, the center started its annual distribution of the Army's supply of flu vaccine. During the winter it also geared up to ship the smallpox vaccine to Southwest Asia along with other specialized biologicals.

Even with the increased workload, not one dose of the 2002 flu vaccine was lost. "Most years, the military services order extra because they know they'll lose some to temperature fluctuations," Garman, a pharmacist, said. "Next year, we know we'll need to order only as much as we need."

The team goes to extreme lengths to make sure its cargo stays at the appropriate temperature so it's safe for vaccine recipients and no doses are lost to temperature fluctuations. To do so, it uses insulated shipping containers and portable refrigerators that can keep vaccines at their optimal temperature of 36 to 46 degrees Fahrenheit on land, sea or air.

In fact, several team members flew on cargo planes this winter, escorting shipments of anthrax and smallpox vaccine as well as investigational new drugs that may have been needed if soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom encountered biological warfare.

Of the thousands of vials of unique products the team escorted, it considered each one "priceless." "In some cases, we shipped all there was of the product, so we weren't going to take a chance on losing any of it," Garman said. He added that shipments of those products were split to make sure at least some would survive in case the unthinkable happened.

Why all the fuss about temperature? A good analogy for the sensitivity of vaccines to temperature extremes is the "spaghetti noodle" example, Garman said. "Many — but not all — vaccines are made up of proteins that resemble long spaghetti noodles floating in a suspension. They have unique topographies, like valleys, crevices and jagged edges that alert your body's immune system to the fact that they are a foreign material and a threat. Thus your immune system reacts to

this specifically shaped 'noodle' to form antibodies that are ideally shaped to interact and neutralize the foreign particle.

"Now imagine taking that protein and exposing it to high temperatures, say above 77 Fahrenheit," he continued. "It reacts like a spaghetti noodle left to boil in a pot. It starts to get soft and jelly-like, its shape changes and, even when it is cooled, its topography remains changed permanently."

"If you take that same cooked pliable spaghetti noodle and freeze it," Garman noted, "now it is susceptible to breakage, not to mention nicks and gouges received by floating in a suspension full of millions of tiny shards of ice crystals before freezing solid."

If the noodle is warmed, its shape remains forever changed, and the change in the protein's topography, either from heat or cold, fundamentally alters the body's reaction to it and can reduce the immune benefits from vaccination. The group acts much like a dispatcher when it comes to anthrax or smallpox vaccine shipments. The Distribution Operations Center staff takes the order, passes the request to Bioport — the anthrax vaccine manufacturer — or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which fills requests for smallpox vaccine, then tracks the vaccine until it reaches the customer.

Because of the need to control the vaccine's temperature from manufacturer to shipper to customer, communication is a paramount concern, and the staff is tenacious about tracking shipments, Gueits said.

"Communication with the commercial carrier ensures that all three parties — the Distribution Operations Center, the carrier and the receiver — know that a temperature-sensitive shipment is making its way through the shipping agents' delivery process," he said.

Garman added that his staff has also found that "the simple act of calling the receiving point of contact to alert them when a shipment is going out and when it

can be expected to be delivered dramatically decreases the likelihood of mishaps compromising the product."

This attention to detail is why the Distribution Operations Center maintains an exceptionally high success rate of safely delivering temperature-sensitive products. Team members do whatever it takes to ensure their customer's needs are met, Garman said.

When medical staffs in Iraq needed drugs and supplies for Iraqi burn patients, a team member went to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio to pack and coordinate the shipment of temperature-sensitive medicine. The team also developed a training CD-ROM so their customers know about the tools and procedures for moving pharmaceuticals within narrow temperature ranges.

"We don't want our shipping containers sitting on a pier in the hot sun," Garman said. "The better informed our carriers and our customers are, the less likely it is that will happen."

The major said his staff is also looking at technology that will prevent the pier scenario from happening. They are exploring the idea of including a global-positioning satellite device with the current temperature monitors. Then, if a carrier loses track of a shipping container, the GPS technology will let the center's staff say exactly where it is and what the temperature of the contents are.

"We don't want to make things so high tech that people can't easily use our methods and equipment," Garman said. "Still, because we're on the leading edge of vaccine shipment for the Army, we hope to export our practices to all of DoD."

Center officials say to get more information on shipping vaccines or a copy of the training CD-ROM, call 301-619-7235 or 301-619-4198.

Editor's note: Karen Fleming Michael is a staff writer for the Standard, the Fort Detrick, Md., newspaper.

National Guard battalion continues string of firsts

*Morgan succeeds Erdley
in change of command*

By SSgt. DAVE ENDERS
35th ADA Brigade PAO

The Alabama National Guard State Area Command administrative officer took command of 1st Battalion, 203rd Air Defense Artillery here June 28.

Lt. Col. Christopher Morgan succeeded Lt. Col. Michael Erdley, who was the first active duty officer to serve as a battalion commander for the Alabama National Guard.

Erdley served as 1-203 ADA Battalion commander for two years as part of an exchange program.

"The program was intended for him to provide insight to the battalion through his experience as an active duty officer and for him to learn more about the National Guard and how we operate," 1-203 senior operations officer Maj. Robert Cook said.

Being the first Alabama National Guard unit to participate in the exchange program was the latest in a series of firsts for the 1-203 ADA Battalion. It was the first Patriot missile battalion allocated to either the National Guard or the Army Reserves. The 1-203 ADA Battalion was also the first National Guard unit to conduct live-fire Patriot missile training and the first ADA National Guard unit to deploy as part of a peacetime operation.

Following his tenure as the 1-203 ADA Battalion commander, Erdley is scheduled to attend the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

Morgan, who was also working a full-time civilian position as the deputy military personnel officer for the Alabama Army National Guard, previously served as the battalion's full-time executive offi-



Courtesy photo
FIELD CEREMONY— Incoming battalion commander, Lt. Col. Christopher Morgan, left, reviews the 1-203 ADA Battalion soldiers with the outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Michael Erdley.

cer, as the 1-203 ADA Battalion adjutant and as the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery commander.

He holds a bachelor's degree in human resource management. Morgan also completed a variety of advance military train-

ing including the Command and General Officer's Staff Course, Combined Arms Staff Services School, Unit Commander's Course, and Air Defense Artillery Officer Advance Course.

Morgan has served more than 20 years,

earning the Meritorious Service Medal, three Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, four Army Reserve Components Achievement Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

National Guard soldiers maintain readiness to deploy



Courtesy photo
PATRIOT TRAINING— Spec. Brent Hubbard works on a Patriot missile launcher during a training exercise June 14-28 for 1st Battalion, 203rd Air Defense Artillery.

By SSgt. DAVE ENDERS
35th ADA Brigade PAO

Maintaining their readiness to deploy at a moment's notice, 1st Battalion, 203rd Air Defense Artillery soldiers completed their annual Patriot missile training here June 14-28.

During this year's training exercises, "we focused on gunnery table eight qualifications," said 1-203 senior operations officer Maj. Robert Cook.

Gunnery table eight qualification is a daytime qualification that certifies Patriot battery crewmembers to take the system down, move it to a new location, stand it back up, and be ready to fire missiles and conduct operations within the Army standard time period.

The Alabama National Guard's 1st Battalion, 203rd Air Defense Artillery, the first National Guard assigned Patriot battalion in the United States, began receiving experienced officers in the late 1990s to assist with annual training. As the battalion's sponsoring unit, the 35th

Air Defense Artillery Brigade sent the experienced officers.

"We've been sending officers to assist them with training ever since the Army's realignment," said Capt. Marcus Jolley, who was the 35th ADA Brigade assistant operations officer April to June.

The 35th ADA Brigade realized an almost immediate return when a 1-203 ADA battery deployed to Southwest Asia with the 2nd Battalion, 1st ADA, January to June 2001, as part of Task Force Desert Lion. It was the first time any National Guard ADA unit deployed with an active duty unit for peacetime operations.

The return kept coming. "Soldiers from the 1-203 deploy with the brigade every year for Ulchi Focus Lens," Jolley said.

In the spring of each year, the 35th ADA brigade participates in UFL with the 8th Army Forces, Korea.

1-203 ADA Battalion soldiers met the Army standard again this year, said Cook, and "we're ready to join the 35th ADA Brigade in Korea."

Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Basketball clinic

A girls and boys basketball clinic is July 12 and again July 19 at Randolph School, 1005 Drake Ave. Times are 9 a.m. until noon for grades four through six, and 2-5 p.m. for grades seven and eight. The \$65 fee includes a free T-shirt and water bottle. Call 325-7529 for registration and more information.

Bowling promotion

Redstone Lanes is host for another summer of fun with Mystery Bowl II. New prizes, more prizes, and chances to win await you at the bowling center. Eighty-seven Army bowling centers are participating in this summer's promotion. The nine weekly winners at each participating bowling center will be entered into a drawing at Community and Family Support Center for a chance to win one of two resort packages, plus \$500 to defray travel costs. The resort vacation includes hotel/resort accommodations for seven nights at the Palm Desert Resort in California, and a vacation activities and amenities package worth at least \$2,000 in-kind services per package. The promotion runs for nine weeks, with weekly winners from each installation entered into a chance to win resort vacation packages. For more information, go to www.redstonemwr.com or call 876-6634.

Triathletes

The Spring City Triathletes meet at 6:30 p.m. July 21 at Logans Roadhouse restaurant off Airport Road. For information call Matt Brass 464-9002.

Rocketman triathlon

The 10th annual Rocketman Triathlon is Aug. 24 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area. For information call Bob Mulkey 883-7399.

Ten-miler tryouts

Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. Aug. 9 and Aug. 23 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team will have six military and four civilian members. The annual race is Oct. 5 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

Soccer registration

American Youth Soccer Organization Region 160 registration for fall 2003/spring 2004 season is open until July 15 for players age 4 and a half to 18 (on July 31). Coed and all-girls teams are available and they practice and play games at John Hunt Park (Old Airport fields) and Merrimack Park (Triana Boulevard). Cost is \$65 per player. For more information, call 539-6852.

Shockers team

The Madison Soccer Club (Shockers) under-9/under-10 girls team has openings for more players — girls ages 7-9. Twice-a-week practices will begin in August with games September through November. For information call coach Kate 430-5378 or team manager Jo 771-0530.

Youth soccer

Child and Youth Services is registering 5-13-year-olds for soccer through July 21. This program is open to children whose parents or legal guardian are active/retired/Guard/reserve military, DoD, NASA, and Redstone contractors. Registration is under way at the CYS Central Enrollment, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Cost is \$35 per child. A copy of the child's birth certificate, a copy of a current sports physical, and a \$15 Central Registration fee is required at time of registration (if not already on file). Call 876-3704 or 313-3699 for details.



Conferences & Meetings

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone Arsenal group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of Bicentennial Chapel.

Industry briefing

The 2003 Team Redstone Advance Planning Briefing for Industry is July 15-17 at Bob Jones Auditorium. This briefing is a continuing effort to keep industry informed of the Army's long-range technology development objectives and contractual opportunities. APBI early registration cost through July 1 is \$425 for industry and academia, and \$300 for military and government employees. APBI registration from July 2-17 is \$475 for industry and academia, and \$350 for military and government employees. Registration the day before the conference will be available July 14 from 1-4 p.m. at the auditorium. For registration or information visit the web site at <http://apbi.redstone.army.mil>, or call Lauretta Mitchell 876-4270 or Christi Wilson 519-6682.

Air defenders

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association is having a membership appreciation social and general membership meeting July 24 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Firehouse Pub. This social is free to members in good standing and prospective members. Applications for membership will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact the association secretary at mhowell@adt-it.com.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers will hold its monthly meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Maj. Gen. William B. Watson Jr. is to speak on Army mobilization and the citizen soldier. For tickets — \$9 members, \$10 non-members — call Virginia Moore 955-6262, ext.165.

Logistics engineers

Richard E. Turner, deputy executive community director for Integrated Materiel Management Center, is to speak on "The Changing Face of Logistics Support to the Warfighter," 11:30 a.m. July 22 at the International Society of Logistics lunch-

eon at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$12 (\$11 for SOLE members). Make reservations by July 18 with Emma Louise Cooper 955-8462 or Deborah Baugh 313-6693.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold its monthly meeting July 16 at 11 a.m. at Papa Lovetti's Restaurant on University Drive in the banquet room. The buffet lunch is \$7 with a beverage, \$5.93 without. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275 or Meg Lipsey 955-6262, ext.112.

Retired workers

National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. Don Webster, director of Huntsville Emergency Medical Services Inc., is scheduled speaker. For more information, call 881-4944 or 881-3168.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting July 17 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning at the Redstone Golf Club. For more information, call retired CSM Jean Rose 313-1659.



Miscellaneous

Association scholarship

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association will award a \$1,000 scholarship in August. Applications are due by July 15. For more information, call Bob Belton of Quantum Research International 971-1800, ext. 257.

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Car show helpers

Volunteer are needed for the Army Emergency Relief fund-raising car show, "Cars and Camouflage," July 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking area off Zeus Road near Gate 10. Volunteers are needed for everything from directing participants to staging areas and traffic control for public parking areas, to registration, setup and judging (some experience or background is required for those volunteering to judge). Individuals interested in volunteering should call SFC Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1141 or e-mail him at thomas.perkins@se.amedd.army.mil.

Theater tickets

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring Broadway Theatre League season tickets for 2003-04. There are five shows in the season ticket package this year: Miss Saigon, Oct. 21-26; Jesus Christ Superstar, Nov. 28-30; Cats, Jan. 30 to Feb. 1; Grease, Feb. 20-22; and Les Miserables, April 27 to May 2. Performance times and discounted ticket prices for orchestra-2 seating are: Friday and

Saturday at 8 p.m., \$210; Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m., \$198; Sunday at 7 p.m., \$192. Contact Charles Urban at charles.urban@redstone.army.mil to purchase season tickets. Ticket payments must be made by July 9 at Sparkman building 5303, first floor, room 3136. If you had reserved seats for last year's season and would like to reserve your same seats for this season, please e-mail your reply by June 27.

Soldier Show

The 2003 U.S. Army Soldier Show will perform two shows July 16, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Morale, Welfare and Recreation distributed tickets to active duty military personnel beginning July 2. Tickets will be available (limit four per person) for Redstone Arsenal employees beginning July 8 through MWR at the Recreation Center, building 3711, on Patton Road and the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce, 225 Church St. Individuals that do not receive tickets can go to the Concert Hall for "standby" seating. While seating is not guaranteed as with a ticket, any seats that remain unfilled 15 minutes prior to the performance will be offered to the individuals on standby on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-1203.

Virtual sweepstakes

Drop your "virtual business card" at www.redstonemwr.com for a chance to win prizes — MWR merchandise, dining coupons, gift certificates and more. Simply go to the web site any time and drop your virtual business card and you're registered to win. Entries will be drawn weekly and winners will be contacted via e-mail or phone.

Army concert tour

Redstone Arsenal MWR is once again hosting the Miller Lite Army Concert Tour featuring Ted Nugent and Foreigner lead singer Lou Gramm on Aug. 9 at 8 p.m. Get your tickets early at www.ticketmaster.com and these outlets: Recreation Center ITR (building 3711 Patton Road), Sparkman Cafeteria, Hotel Redstone, Officers and Civilians Club, PX Customer Service, or by phone at 876-4531. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the gate. Go to www.redstonemwr.com for more information.

Armed forces week

Armed Forces Celebration Week spans July 13-20 and many of the events are free to the military and the public. For more information call the Public Affairs Office 876-5302, the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce 535-2000, or visit the web site at http://www.redstone.army.mil/pub_affairs/.

Workers comp office

Workers' Compensation Office, of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, has a new location (building 5308, room 8137), new phone number (842-9038) and new fax number (955-6113).

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will have an information meeting on its master of

See Announcements on page 21

business administration program July 17 at 6 p.m. at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. Weekend classes meet in Huntsville on an 18-month alternate weekend format. For more information, call Bill Spade 800-672-7223, ext. 5046.

PX news

Visit the PX American Eatery in building 4488 for breakfast Monday through Friday from 6:30-10:30 a.m. If you buy one of the omelet platters for \$3.29 or the scrambled egg platter for \$3.19 through July 25, you will be eligible to register to win a 200 Unit phone card. Simply write your name and address on the back of your receipt and drop it in the box at the American Eatery. The drawing will be held July 28. Entrants do not have to be present to win. For more information, call 876-9325.

Travel course

South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center is offering a Civilian Travel Regulation course Aug. 12-13. The target audience is anyone involved with authorizing, approving, processing, auditing and paying for travel in accordance with the JTR-Vol. 2 for civilian employees with DoD. The cost per person is \$240. For more information or to register, call John Bentley 876-2760.

Interpersonal relationships

South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center is holding a Maximizing Interpersonal Relationships workshop Aug. 19. The target audience is anyone wanting to build productive teams, develop effective managers, improve customer service, or ease frustration and conflict. There is a \$25 investment per person to cover the cost of the participant's workbook and self-assessment instrument. For more information or to register, call John Bentley 876-2760.

Criminal investigators

The Army's Criminal Investigation Command is seeking qualified applicants to become CID special agents. The CID investigates all felony crimes in which the Army has an interest, provides protective service operations, and works closely with other federal and local law enforcement agencies to solve crime and combat terrorism. Agents receive training at the Army Military Police School and advanced training in specialized investigative disciplines. Selected agents also receive advanced training at the FBI Academy, Scotland Yard, and the Canadi-

an Police College, as well as opportunities to hold a master's degree in forensic science. To qualify you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 21 years old, possess at least 60 semester hours of college credit and a general technical score of at least 110. A minimum of six months police experience is preferred, but not required. To apply or for more information, call the local CID office 876-2037.

Astronomical society

Von Braun Astronomical Society astronomers will tour "The Summer Skies" Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Wernher Von Braun Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For non-members, admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Weather permitting, a star party, using the big VBAS telescopes, will follow. For information call Mitzi Adams 961-7626.

Special needs workshops

The Exceptional Family Member Program offers several parenting workshops for parents with children with special needs. Workshops will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338. Child care will be provided through the Child and Youth Services Program. Reservations for child care are needed a week before the scheduled class. Call Natalie Taylor, EFMP manager, 876-5397 for workshop and child care reservations. Brown bags are welcome; light refreshments will be provided. Workshops are provided by the Huntsville Special Education Action Committee. They include Special Education Laws, July 17; Evaluations, July 30; Individual Education Plan Development, Aug. 13; and Effective Communication and Problem Solving, Aug. 27.

Florida Tech registration

Florida Tech Graduate Center is accepting registration for the fall semester. Class meets weekly from 5-8 p.m. in building 5304. For more information, call the admin office 881-7878 or visit room 4326.

Home alone class

Child and Youth Services will hold a Home Alone class July 14 for ages 10-13. This free class is 1-2:30 p.m. at the Child-Wise Neighborhood Center, building 1413 on Nike Street. For more information, call 876-2798.

Arts and crafts

The June M. Hughes Arts and Crafts Center offers classes on various arts and crafts, painting and woodwork. For more information or a class schedule, call 876-7951.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?															
AS OF JULY 3 03		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U				

THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL

SCBK03204255	Aerospace Engineer	9-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0861	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03192847	General Engineer	9-Jul-03	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03198757	General Engineer	11-Jul-03	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK030190580	Lead Human Resources Spec	12-Jul-03	AMCOM-PT	GS-0201	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X														
SCBK03200622	Program Analyst	14-Jul-03	PEO Aviation	GS-0343	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X														
SCBK03201719	Supvy Technical Systems Analyst	14-Jul-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X							X							
SCBK03197506	Environmental Engineer	14-Jul-03	SMDC	GS-0819	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X							X							
SCBK03204347	Program Analyst	14-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0343	12	12	56,690 - 73,697	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X				
SCBK03203192	Program Analyst	14-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0343	12	12	56,690 - 73,697	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X				
SCBK03190593	Civil Engineer	15-Jul-03	SMDC	GS-0810	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X														
SCBK03197643	Equipment Spec (Gen)	15-Jul-03	PEO-COMBAT-SPT	GS-1670	12	12	67,413 - 87,640	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK03201807	Secretary (OA)	16-Jul-03	LOGSA	GS-0318	7	7	31,958 - 41,547	X														
SCBK03188340	Security Assistance Analyst	16-Jul-03	SAMD	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X														
SCBK03234041	Log Mgmt Spec	18-Jul-30	SMDC	GS-0346	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK03197297	Supvy Program Analyst	18-Jul-03	PEO-COMBAT-SPT	NH-0343	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK03203751	Electronics Engineer	18-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0855	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X														
SCBK03204189	Log Mgmt Spec	18-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0346	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X														
SCBK03204193	Electronics Engineer	18-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0855	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK03204389	Program Integrator	18-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X				
SCBK03239757	Security Assistance Analyst	18-Jul-03	SAMD	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X														
ALU301446	Supvy Program Analyst	25-Jul-03	PEO TAC	NH-0343	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03204215	International Prog Mgmt Spec	28-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0301	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X	X													
SCBK03204452	Program Integration Spec	28-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	GS-0301	14	14	79,663 - 103,564	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X				
SCBK03203778	Supvy General Engineer	28-Jul-03	PEO-Aviation	NH-0801	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG03204968	Electronics Engineer	20-Aug-03	ATTC	GS-0855	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG03205103	Aerospace Engineer	30-Aug-03	ATTC	GS-0861	13	13	67,143 - 87,289	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG03205144	Flight Test Pilot	30-Aug-03	ATTC	GS-2181	14	14	79,344 - 103,150	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
MD-DH-02-0665	Audiologist/Speech Pathologist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0665	11-13	13	44,668 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0683	Dental Lab Technician	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0683	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0603	Physician's Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0603	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0682	Dental Hygienist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0682	5-7	7	25,467 - 45,493	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0681	Dental Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0681	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0680	Dental Officer	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0680	12	12	55,958 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0662	Optometrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0662	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0668	Podiatrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0668	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-DH-02-0610	Registered Nurse	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0610	9-12	12	38,588 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03197863OC	Safety and Occupational Health Spec	31-Dec-03	CoFE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	47,266 - 61,494	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-03-2653	Medical Technologist (VOS)	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0644	7-9-10	11-12	31,546 - 72,746	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-03-2673	Social Worker	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0185	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
MD-03-2682	Counseling Psychologist	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0180	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03147126OC	General Engr,Civil Engr,Architect,Mech Engr,Elect Engr	31-Dec-03	Shchuchy,Kurgan, Region,Russia	GS-0801-0810-0808-0830-0850	15	15	85,140 - 110,682	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK03127239	Architect	2-Jan-04	CoFE Huntsville	GS-0808	11	12	47,240 - 70,841	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV

X-LW-03-5355-RD	General Engineer	14-Jul-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
X-LW-03-5358-RD	General Engineer	14-Jul-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
X-SP-03-5387-FL	Supvy Program Analyst	24-Jul-03	Office Sec of Army	NH-0343	4	4	79,663 - 121,817	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
X-AO-03-5363-PO	Engineering Technician	25-Jul-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0802	12	12	56,690 - 73,697	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
X-AO-03-5364-PO	Electrical Engineer	28-Jul-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0850	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
X-AL-03-5210-RD	Electrical Engineer	15-Aug-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0850	12	12	56,690 - 73,697	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
C - Compensably Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)
F- All Federal Employees
H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)
R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)
V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
U - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone 876-7772.